

**BOARD OF HEALTH**  
**Bangs Community Center: Room 101**  
**Minutes**

April 3, 2014

BOH Members: Diane Amsterdam, MD; Marco Boscardin; Nancy Gilbert;  
Julie Marcus

BOH Excused: David Ahlfeld

Staff: Julie Federman; Pamela Field-Sadler

Other: See Attached List

**Meeting opened at 7:00 p.m.**

Ms. Gilbert welcomed all to the meeting and explained in the absence of David Ahlfeld she would act as Chairperson for this meeting.

**I. Review & Receive**

**A. Meeting Minutes**

1. Meeting Minutes from March 13, 2014 –**Approved as written**

**II. New Business**

**A. Annual Nomination of Animal Inspectors**

The Board of Health reviewed the nomination forms for the Amherst Inspector of Animals received from the Massachusetts Department of Agricultural Resources.

**Motion:** Dr. Amsterdam made the motion, seconded by Ms. Marcus, to nominate Michael Katz, DVM as Inspector of Animals for the Town of Amherst. **Vote:** Unanimously Approved

**Motion:** Dr. Amsterdam made the motion, seconded by Ms. Marcus, to nominate Carol Hepburn as Inspector of Animals for the Town of Amherst. **Vote:** Unanimously Approved

**III. Old Business**

**A. Water Fluoridation**

Ms. Federman pointed out the town's fluoride is purchased through a bid process. This fiscal year the fluoride purchasing contract was awarded to a new vendor. The fluoride meets the National Sanitation Foundation standard. Ms. Federman will confer with the DPW Director to confirm the testing process for the fluoride. The Board of Health (BOH) members noted a lack of correlation in some cited works. The BOH reiterated their confidence in recommendations provided by the Center for Disease Control, the Surgeon General, US Department of Health and Human Services and the Healthy People initiatives. The BOH noted it is reported the percentage of children living in poverty attending Amherst elementary schools is rising. A BOH member provided Ms. Field-Sadler documents regarding fluoride which were

sent to her home. The BOH listened to comments and concerns brought forward by the audience including:

- Last year, approximately 17,000 lbs. of fluoride was purchased by the town at a cost of approximately \$11,000.
- Expert agencies may be reluctant to admit when mistakes are made.
- The budget spent on fluoride could be used for other projects such as disseminating toothpaste in the schools.
- The BOH should consider the reasons other towns have discontinued fluoridation programs.
- Residents need to be able to trust their drinking water.
- Fluoridating the water is a decision which should be made by town residents.
- The United States could be behind other countries in regards to research.
- Invite a representative from Northampton to a meeting to explain why the city's public water supply is unfluoridated.
- BOH should keep in mind some trade journals may have a bias toward a subject.

Audience participants were thanked for coming. The BOH emphasized they are interested in considering peer reviewed literature. The BOH noted that an aspect of the fluoridation question is consent, and agree consent is not a direct Public Health issue. The BOH will continue this discussion at their May 15, 2014 meeting. Written comments regarding this item should be submitted to the Health Department by May 5, 2014.

**B. Suggested Modifications: *Regulations for Refuse Collection and Mandatory Recycling***

The Board of Health (BOH) reviewed suggested modifications for the *Regulations for Refuse Collection and Mandatory Recycling* drafted by Mr. Boscardin. Ms. Federman will consult the State Sanitary Code to clarify recommendations regarding single family rentals and apartment complexes. Mr. Boscardin will draft necessary modifications based upon Ms. Federman's findings.

**C. Hampshire College Campus Portal Project**

Ms. Federman has spoken with the coordinators for the Hampshire College Campus Portal Project. The project coordinators hope to have a finalized plan this summer and possibly begin the building project in the fall. The Board of Health (BOH) discussed the level of testing necessary for a water supply with an on-site treatment and reuse strategy. Ms. Federman will invite the project coordinators to the June 12, 2014 BOH meeting.

**IV. Topics Not Anticipated By the Chair 48 Hours Prior To The Meeting**

**A. Geothermal Well Application: East Pleasant Street**

**AHA/John Nutting Apartments**

As a response from a Board of Health (BOH) inquiry, Ms. Federman confirmed the geothermal well for the property on East Pleasant Street known

as John Nutting Apartments is a closed-loop system, and no drinking water wells exist within 100' of the proposed project.

**V. Director's Report and Update**

**A. Mosquito Season**

Ms. Federman explained the onset of mosquito season has arrived. The Health Department will focus on educating the community of the importance of removing standing water to prevent mosquito breeding environments. Ms. Federman pointed out she will be working with the schools to develop exposure prevention plans for students and athletic programs.

**VI. Schedule Next Board of Health Meeting/Agenda Closing Date**

The following Board of Health meetings are scheduled:

May 15, 2014

June 12, 2014

July 17, 2014

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Pamela Field-Sadler, Management Assistant

**Approved:** May 15, 2014

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**Meeting Document List**

The following documents were available to the Board of Health during their scheduled meeting. These documents are available for review at the:

**Amherst Health Department, 70 Boltwood Walk, Amherst, MA 01002**

- Meeting Agenda
- Meeting Minutes: March 13, 2014 (draft)
- Nomination of Animal Inspectors
  1. Carol Hepburn
  2. Michael Katz, DVM
- Fluoride Discussion
  1. Email correspondence from Irene Dzioba
  2. Email correspondence from Guilford Mooring including a *Material Safety Data Sheet* (submitted by Hope Crolius)
  3. Drinking water Quality Supply Report 2012
  4. *Building a Database of Developmental Neurotoxicants: Evidence from Human and Animal Studies*
  5. *Developmental Fluoride Neurotoxicity: A Systematic Review and Meta-Analysis*
  6. Amherst Water Supply Laboratory Report (June 2013)
  7. Comments submitted by Craig Goff
  8. *Dr. Hardy Limeback BSc PhD (Biochemistry) DDS – Why I am now officially opposed to adding fluoride to drinking water*
  9. Association of State Territorial Dental Directors: *Use of Fluoride: Community Water Fluoridation*
  10. *Waste Not* (editions 373, 414, 432, 434)
  11. *People of the Lie: Dental Hygiene*
  12. *Fluoride In Our Water: The Chilling and Sinister Truth About Fluoride*
  13. Del Rio News-Herald: *City removes fluoride from water*
  14. Brochure: *Protect Our Water Our Health Our Rights*
  15. Brochure: *Fluoridation...is not all it's "stacked" up to be*
  16. *Health Freedom News* (September-October, 1997)
- *Town of Amherst Board of Health Regulations for Refuse Collection and Mandatory Recycling* with suggested modifications drafted by Marco Boscardin

Town of



AMHERST

Massachusetts

AMHERST HEALTH DEPARTMENT, 70 BOLTWOOD WALK, AMHERST, MA 01002  
(413) 259-3077 (413) 259-2404 - FAX Environmental Health Division (413) 259-3078

## BOARD OF HEALTH MEETING

### Sign In Sheet

April 3, 2014

Room 101

Bangs Community Center

7:00 p.m.

NAME (Please Print Clearly) ADDRESS/AFFILIATION/TITLE

1. Amy Vickers Resident
2. Peggy Matthews-Nilsen Resident
3. Mark Wisniewski 12 Pleasant St
4. Sigurd Nilsen Resident
5. Brian Kopinbo 775 Bangs Rd
6. James C. Kelb 48 Memorial Dr
7. Mark Kelly 48 Memorial Dr.
8. JONATHAN EVANS 109 Leverett Rd.
9. Dori Midnight 45 Spaulding St.
10. Rebecca Hull 46 Story Hill
11. Irene Dzioba 170 E. Hadley Rd.
12. John Zulu 350 Potwine Lane
13. Julie Jones 350 Potwine Lane